

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
ABSTRACT

Public Services - Forest Department – Large scale misappropriation of Government funds in execution of works in the Ranges of Giddalur, Gundlakamma and Kanigiri - Disciplinary Proceedings initiated against Sri A. Ramanaiah, Forest Range Officer (Retd), formerly Kanigiri Range of Giddalur Division – Inquiry finalized and Findings received – Imposition of penalty of 5% cut in pension for a period of one (1) year – Show-cause-Notice issued – Explanation received – Final orders - Issued.

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ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SEC.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 87

Dated:29-10-2014  
Read the following:

- Ref:- 1) From the Prl. CCF., Rc.No.1707/2003/P3, dt.20-1-2003.  
2) Govt. Memo.No.722/For.IV/2003-1, dt. 12-3-2003 & 10-1-05.  
3) From the Prl.CCF Ref.No.51086/2002/PXA1, dt:19-8-2005.  
4) G.O.Rt.No.557, EFS&T(For.IV) Dept., dt:12-12-2011.  
5) From the G.A.(COI-LP) Dept., D.O.Lr. No.16/COI.LP/2012-1, dt:29-8-2012.  
6) Govt.Memo.No.722/For.IV/A1/2003-17, dt:28-9-2012.  
7) From the Prl.CCF, Ref.No.51086/2002/K3, dt:9-1-2013.  
8) Govt.Memo.No.722/For.IV/A1/2003-21, Dt.12-4-2013.  
9) From the Prl.CCF Ref.No.51086/2002/K3, dt:24-5-2013.  
10) Govt. Memo.No.722/For.IV/A1/2003-22, dt:29-7-2013.  
11) From the Prl.CCF Ref.No.51086/2002/K3, dt:7-8-2013  
12) Govt.Memo.No.722/for.IV/A1/2003-24, dt:9-12-2013.  
13) From the Prl.CCF Ref.No.51086/2002/K3, dt:23-12-2013.  
14) Govt., Lr.No. 722/For.IV/A1/2003, dt. 21.01.2014 & 27.09.2014.  
15) From the Secretery(FAC), Lr. No. 639/RT/2/2014, dt. 20.10.2014.

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ORDER:

In the reference 1<sup>st</sup> read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Hyderabad has informed that, large scale misappropriation of Government funds to a tune of Rs.22,43,411/- in execution of works under RIDF in Giddalur, Gundlakamma and Kanigiri Ranges of Giddalur Division of Guntur Circle was reported and disciplinary action was initiated against Sri A. Ramanaiah, Forest Range Officer (Retd), formerly Kanigiri Range along with other Forest subordinates and Article of Charges were issued vide Rc.No.1707/2003/P3, dt:7-7-2003 against him on the following count:-

Article- 1:- That he had exhibited gross neglect of duty by booking irregular expenditure for the unexecuted works and thereby misappropriated the Government money to a tune of Rs.4,54,725/-.

Article - 2:- That he had exhibited gross neglect of duties by not submitting the monthly cash accounts under EAS in time resulting in grave irregularities in execution of works.

Article- 3:- That he had exhibited gross neglect of duties by violating the procedure by on depositing EAS funds of Rs.4,00,000/- to the VSS joint accounts and booking of expenditure directly without issuing A.R.Advances to the Forest Section Officers.

2. In addition to the disciplinary proceedings, Criminal Cases were also booked against Sri A. Ramanaiah, Forest Range Officer (Retd), and other forest subordinates.

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3. The charged officer has submitted his explanation. Not satisfying with the explanation, and as per the remarks of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, orders were issued entrusting the case to the Commissioner of Inquiries.

4. In the reference 5<sup>th</sup> read above, the Inquiring Authority has furnished his findings in which it was concluded that the charges framed against Sri A. Ramanaiah, Forest Range Officer (Retd) are held proved. The Criminal case filed against Sri A. Ramanaiah, Forest Range Officer (Retd) was disposed and he was acquitted by the Hon'ble Judicial Magistrate of I<sup>st</sup> Class, Kanigiri, vide judgment dt.10.08.2007. The findings of the Commissioner of Inquiries, were communicated to Sri A. Ramanaiah, Forest Range Officer (Retd) and obtained further defense statement, in which he has mainly contended that the First Class Judicial Magistrate, Kanigiri in C.C.No.115/2001 has acquitted him from the charge of misappropriation of funds and hence requested to drop further action in the departmental case and release all pensionary benefits, as he was already retired from service during 2002.

5. Sri A. Ramanaiah, Forest Range Officer (Retd) formerly Kanigiri Range has retired from the Government Service on attaining the age of superannuation on 30-6-2002. Hence the disciplinary proceedings are continued as per Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

6. Government, after examination of the findings of the Commissioner of Inquiries, along with connected records and remarks of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Hyderabad, found that the charges framed against the charged officer are held proved to the extent of negligence of duty and not following the EAS accounting procedure and provisionally decided to impose a penalty of 5% cut in pension for a period of one (1) year on the charged officer, Sri A. Ramanaiah, Forest Range Officer (Retired) formerly Kanigiri Range under Rule 9 of A.P.Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

7. Accordingly a show cause notice was issued to the retired charged officer vide reference 12<sup>th</sup> read above. The Charged Officer has submitted his explanation to the Show Cause Notice through the reference 13<sup>th</sup> read above in which he has not put forth any new points and agreed for the proposed punishment. The concurrence of Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission has been obtained vide reference 15<sup>th</sup> read above.

8. Government, after careful examination of the matter hereby order to impose the penalty of 5% cut in pension for a period of one (1) year against Sri A. Ramanaiah, Forest Range Officer (Retd), Kanigiri Range, under rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

9. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P. Hyderabad is requested to take action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

S.P. SINGH  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To  
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.  
The Individual (through Principal Chief Conservator of Forests).

Copy to:  
The Accountant General (A&E) A.P., Hyderabad.  
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, Hyderabad, A.P.  
The Secretary(FAC), A.P. Public Service Commission, Hyderabad(with ref. to  
Lr. No. 639/RT/2/2014, Dt:20.10.2014)  
Sf./Sc.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER